

G. R. S. IX-5]

Previous references.

S. R. 70-06 Slrs 1-25
en. 71-7 of 1897-98

1917
(S R)

File No. 248-12

Serial Nos. 1-8

Later references.

S. R. 65-1781 1-3;
15. Dec 17
Ex 72-19 (1-6)
Ex 49-22 (1-6)

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

Serial Nos. 1-8

Part B for June 1917

SUBJECT.

Grant of certain concessions to the
ryots of Malnad tracts for tapping
bagani trees.

Pl. 1. — Proposal.

Sl. 8. — Sanctions the grant of certain
concessions to the ryots of Malnad
tracts for tapping bagani trees

16-6-17
19-7

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

(J R)

NOTES

File No. 248-12

FILE HEADING.

Bagam trees on hidurali lands.
(ORA subject no. 226 of 912)

From

No.

Dated

Received

Diary No. 4682

Enclos. — Spare Copies. —

Serial No. 1.

BRIEF ABSTRACT OF LETTER.

Request that the mediation of the contractor may be withdrawn in regard to the tapping of bagam trees and that at least ten trees may be allowed to each landholder for domestic consumption, including the consumption by servants.

NOTES AND ORDERS.

1. Reply of Govt is as follows: -

"The last of suggestion will be considered in Consultation with the Excise Commr."

2. A draft requesting the Excise Commr's opinion on the ~~subject~~ subject is put up for orders.

Rule 1(c) under con-
dition 17 applicable
to 1000g. - Hay 20.

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3. A reference to the rule on the point
is made in the ~~the~~ notice for the
sales of excise privileges for 1913-14 (repeated)
subd for orders with a draft

M-83 Mr.
31/5/13

4 Dr Secy)

Spd 31.5.

5 Due as revised June 16

2 To

300

The Excise Commissioner in Mysore
No. 7047 of S. 6 1913.

I invite his attention to the
representation in question and request
submission of a report on the feasibility
of the proposal.

3. From the Excise Commr in Mysore

No. 3433 of dt 2nd October 1913

Encloses a note on the subject
and states that he is not in
favour of the prayer being
granted for reasons stated
therein

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General and Revenue
Secretariat.

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7. Memo. flagged Z located on the S.D. of 1898. Flag R		6. The Coffee planter enjoys the special privilege of drawing toddy free of tree tax from bagamias. The toddy yielding trees on his land for domestic purposes, such as making of bread, etc. (Jaffong is perhaps included in the term domestic purpose). Incidentally it is also mentioned that native planters do not require toddy for making bread.
(Section 15 of the Rules for the grant of land for coffee cultivation.) ↓ Refers to in flag N		
do (Kan rules) refers to in N.		7. The Kanholder has the privilege of drawing toddy free of tree tax from toddy yielding trees in his Kan only for the use of the members of his family, but not for sale or for the use of his servants, labourers and other employees.
Flag Z		8. The Coffee planter or Kanholder should for these purposes apply to the Dy. Commr for the number of trees required by him, and after his orders are obtained, trees will be marked and licenses will be issued free. Generally in the case of Kanholders one tree is allowed for every adult male member. 9. A somewhat modified

NOTE—Contn. sheet

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concession is shown to the coffee planters in coffee estates the exclusive privilege of selling toddy in the Estate maybe sold to a planter for a fixed sum of ^{not less than} Rs 12/- per annum. This is an estate shop for the benefit of the coolies working therein. The tree tax has to be paid before trees are marked and other formalities have to be observed. In this case toddy should be sold only to his coolies and he must keep the trees standing on his estate.

18 In the bagam area persons ~~other~~ other than those mentioned above, i.e. ordinary hivalidars and other coffee planters wishing to draw toddy (1) for sale to the cooly, (2) for sale to the public, (3) to give to dependents & (4) to take to one's house for domestic ^{personal} consumption has to go to the licensee or contractor and get his permission, pay the tree tax and have the trees ~~marked~~ marked before they could be tapped. In this case there is one concession, tree tax maybe paid to the Patel and trees maybe marked in the challans issued by him. This to a certain extent

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minimizes the delay in marking,
and drawing toddy at any particula
time required by the bidivalidan.

11. If the mediation of the con-
tractor is removed, every bidivalidan
can use toddy drawn on his estate
indiscriminately, illicitly sell the
to outsiders, ^{and thus he} steps into the position
of Govt and demands his own term
from his servants for giving them
drink. Even the limit of 60 trees
proposed by certain members as a
safeguard against malpractices
does not serve the purpose in some
cases, for when the yield of toddy in
those trees is inadequate to supply
the demands, the bidivalidan ~~will~~
will resort to illicit tapping or other-
wise evade excise control. Whereas
the licensee or contractor of bagani
toddy shops generally cooperates with
Govt in preventing illicit tapping,
& sale to servants and others, as it is
to his interest also that such ir-
regularities should be checked.

12 The Deputy Comdts of Shimoga
and Hassan are of opinion that

Enclosure to SR 248.

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no change in the existing system is called for and the Excise Comm. agrees with them. As no reference is made by the Excise Comm. to the views expressed by the Dy Commr of the Madras Dt., it has perhaps to be presumed that they are against the tree tax system as in force in the Bagam area.

But one aspect of the question ~~appears to~~ may perhaps be taken up for consideration in this connection, viz. whether it is feasible to allow five or three trees to landholders for ^{bona fide} domestic consumption on payment of tree tax, the usual license, etc., being taken free, and ^{how far} whether this procedure is contrary ^{to a modification} to the tree tax system in force in the Malnad parts of the State.

Y (Admin Report)
for 1911-12

In Madras, licenses are issued on the application of tree owners, through-out the Presidency on payment of tree tax for not more than five trees for bona fide domestic consumption. Sweet toddy tappers in Kistna and Godavari Dts. are ^{similarly} allowed three trees for drawing fermented toddy.

7

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for their own use ~~on~~ the only District where the first concession was awarded of by tree owners to an appreciable extent ~~was~~ were in Malabar & South Canara. About 636 trees were tapped under this concession and the sweet toddy tappers used 4458 trees in 1911-12 for the whole of the Madras Presidency. In the Indran Excise Committee's report reference is made to the concession given to tree owners to tap toddy trees for ~~domestic~~ domestic consumption. It is also stated that both in Madras & Bombay very little use is made of the concession. The reason for this is not stated. They recommend that domestic consumption within moderate limits must be allowed and that landholders must be encouraged to take out licenses for domestic consumption, particularly on the West Coast. The Govt. of India agree in this view.

15 In Mysore no such concession is allowed for domestic consumption in the ordinary date.

The figures for 1912-3 are given in the Report for that year and there is not much difference in the number of trees tapped - 21.

(Pages 60, 61, 65 & 66.)

(Pages 65)

✓
(Since mentioned & found in another connection)

NOTE—Contn. sheet.

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area, the shop being the place where
buddy ought to be bought. But in the
bazaar area where a modified form
of tree tax and farming system prevails
buddy may be sold in any place
within the area attached to a particular
shop. In this connection it may
be mentioned that the order of 1898
was passed after the suggestion that
five trees maybe given to tree owners
in the Malabar was made by the
District Council of the Madras St. and the
Excise Council in Mysore.

16 At this stage ^{may} the Excise Council
~~may~~ be asked to state how the privilege
of giving 5 trees ~~for~~ to tree owners for
domestic consumption ~~is~~ being
worked in the Malabar and South
Canara Sts and why a large
number of trees is not tapped under
this concession?

17 The reply given at the
Representative Assembly to the
subject relating to the bazaar
trees in Madras Sts is that
it is under the consideration of Govt
Sd/- for orders

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18 The present position of the system in the Bagani area is explained in the above notes. The proposal of the RA member is to do away with the mediation of the contractor & to allot at least 10 trees to each landholder for domestic consumption by them & their servants. This proposal has been thoroughly discussed by the Dy Com^y of the District containing the Bagani Area & in the Excise Com^y Note. The Excise Com^y agreeing with the Dy Com^y of Hassan & Shimoga is against the proposal. The reasons urged may be briefly summarised:-

(i) The proposal which is tantamount to the closing of many Port Shops involves a sacrifice of ~~the~~ the revenue from rental which amounted in 1912-13 to Rs 44,000 ~~and~~

(ii) The proposal is not feasible as it will surely lead to illicit sales. This is especially so with regard to Bagani, as the trees are scattered far & wide & check of the trees tapped will be exceedingly difficult, if not impossible.

Enclosure & paper
under disposal

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(iii) The proposal will benefit only the small class of influential *hiduvalidars* but not the large body of the consumers who are their servants & dependents.

(iv) The existing system is worked so as to cause very little inconvenience.

19. The force of the objections raised by the Excise Com.^y is indeed quite apparent, especially when the proposal is to fine so large a number of trees as 10 to every landholder. It is in direct conflict with the principles of the tree tax system now in force.

20. It is true, however, that as a matter of principle, the Excise Committee appointed by the Govt of India recommended that landholders should be encouraged to take out licenses for domestic consumption. In Madras licenses for 5 trees are granted to landowners for domestic consumption & this system has been in force for some time there. But the latest *Admⁿ* report of Madras Excise Dept shows

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that this concession has not been availed of to a large extent. Its failure may perhaps be attributed to the fact that the ordinary landholder will find it more easy to obtain his toddy from the shop than to take elaborate steps to procure the license. Under the present system, the contractor does all this work for them; while, under the proposal, all the responsibility will be on the landholder himself.

It is therefore clear that there are serious objections to the proposal as put forward from every point of view. It may be urged that these objections will lose much of their value if the number of trees to be licensed for this purpose is reduced to two or three. This number was also suggested by the R.A. members during the discussion of this question in 1912. But the difficulties of supervision by the Excise Staff so as to see that no illicit ~~sale~~ tapping & sale occur will remain as great.

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As I was on leave
in December
I kept the file some
time to study the
subject fully
S. P. S.

22 For these reasons it appears
that the Excise Com's recommendation
may be accepted

23

Appt. from all theory the existing system is open to
the charge of invidiousness in as much as the concessions
shown by the rules to Kandars & coffee estate owners are
denied to other landowners in the Bagani toddy area.

24 In the former case the concessions, it is not
disputed, can be worked without leading to any abuses.
If so, why should such a result be not possible in the
case of other landowners if similar concessions are shown
to them also?

25 Probably their number is too large, though
the papers do not furnish us the figures about any
of the three classes. If the no. of other landowners
is too large to admit of an easy working of the concession,
why should not the concession be confined to them - rather
a select few of them, on the basis of the extent of
the land w/ estate? It is this principle, I conceive, that
has led to the privileges of Kandars & coffee estate owners
and the same may be adopted in regard to other landowners
also. To do this the only thing to be done is to
ascertain the minimum extent of lands & coffee estates
which enjoy the concessions.

26 Then, as already observed, the concessions to be

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granted. Should be strictly similar to those of the Kaudans & ~~other estates~~ as far as possible. A limited no. of trees, for bona fide domestic consumption, fixed by the Dy. Comm. by Enquiries if need be, may be allowed provided tree tax is paid and license obtained the interference of the contractor being eliminated. The contractor will be one of the checks against the abuse of the privilege by means of either excluding it to the servants of the landowner or exceeding the no. sanctioned.

27 Encouragement of fresh bagani toddy, which does not lead to intoxication, is quite consistent with the allowed policy of checking the consumption of liquor.

28 The liberal policy followed in this respect by Madras & other places in India and recommended by the Excise Committee may with advantage be followed here ^{subject to due safeguards} at least as an experimental measure for a period of three years or so. If these proposals meet with acceptance the details will be elaborated.

Second
member

D. M. Narasimhaiah

18/2 Am

29 1/2. As before census. I remember having mentioned 6 in late before and there was no objection to try the scheme for a period of 3 years, viz. each landholder two trees per annum details may be elaborated

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30

Draft sub?

15/73 SW
7/2/14

31

Please put up two draft-as

was

Am

26/3

32

202 draft sub?

15/73 SW

28/3/14 Sec 2)

Am

8/4

33 A copy of draft-as revised maybe put up

W)

Am

25/4

20/4

34

202 draft-sub?

15/73 SW

4/5/14 Sec 2)

Am

6/5

35

A draft is put up for approval as per paragraph 29.

(Second member)

D. M. Narasimha Rao

Am 5/5

6/5

36 approved

6/5 Well

37 issue

Am

7/5/14

To the Excise Com.

no. 765302 of 11.5.14

Call for information on certain points, with a view

to determine the expediency of extending to the landholders

in the Melnad a concession similar to that granted to Kan holders.

From the Excise Comm. in Mysore. No. 267-162 & 16

GPB-60,000-7-11-13

Submits his proposals in the matter with the information

received from the Dy Commissioners in certain points.

5. From the Secretary Central Committee, Melnad Improvement.

No 115 & 3076/1916. Submits the resolution of the Committee in the matter

of taking into account the local conditions & results for home consumption.

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S.

^{bagam}
38 The question of allowing trees to be tapped by ~~hiduralidars~~ ^{hiduralidars} for bonafide domestic purposes is being brought forward for discussion in the Representative Assembly for the past 4 or 5 years. The chief point put forward is that ~~because~~ ^{because} certain trees may be given out to the malnad landholders for domestic consumption without loss of revenue to Govt and without the intervention of the contracts. In May 1914 the Taxe Comm. was asked to furnish certain details for the information of Govt.

39 The paper under disposal explains itself. The Taxe Comm's proposal does not involve any material change in the system now prevailing in the bagam area, but the concession given to the landholder in getting trees marked ^{free of tree tax} for domestic consumption (i.e. for drinking) is proposed to be extended to coffee planters and ordinary landholders, and the privilege now enjoyed by the coffee planter for getting trees marked free of tree tax for making bread is also proposed to be extended to landholders and ordinary landholders.

40 For the enclosure to the ^{last} paper under disposal it is seen that even

kind
These are not making use
of today for making bread
or jaffery.

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the facilities now given to coffee planters and
Kantholders are not availed of to any great
extent. As already pointed out in these notes
the condition appears to be the same in South
Canara & Malabar.

41 The probable financial effect ~~on~~
on excise revenue on account of the changes
proposed by the Excise Comm^{ee} is ^{also} given. But it
is only in this connection that the ~~present~~
^{latest} proposal is more liberal than what
was suggested by the Deputy Secretary in
paragraph 26 of these notes, viz a certain number
of trees being allowed to be tapped on payment of
tree tax and license obtained therefor. The
Member in charge ~~part~~ was of opinion that the
experiment might be tried for three years
giving two trees for each landholder.

42 The questions for consideration are:-

(1) Whether any more concessions are
necessary to the Kanthar ^{than} ~~best~~ to bring
to his notice the concession which
he is enjoying.

(2) Whether the coffee estate owners and
other landholders in the Malabar
may not get a certain number of
trees marked for domestic consump^{tion}
tion after tree tax ^{and license obtained therefor} is paid as in

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The Madras Presidency.

4(3). ^{Whether} Estate shops ^{may be} allowed to be opened by ordinary landholders and Kaddars, if they so desire, on payment of ~~the~~ a license fee, ^{minimum} of Rs 3/- per mensem, as proposed by the Excise Commr.

43 By this arrangement the mediation of the Contractor is dispensed with and there will be no loss on account of breaching the loss ~~now~~ under shop rental for Govt shops may to some extent be made up by the rental for estate shops. A draft order sanctioning the proposals of the Excise Commr is, however, sent for orders.

h-

19/10/16. 44 A draft order ^{of} the Ex Commr proposals is put up for facilities. ^{land} There are however two points which require some notice. The ordinary holders require permission to tap trees for bonafide domestic consumption, without the intervention of the licensee of a shop - not necessarily free of payment of tree tax - It ~~was~~ is therefore ~~be~~ not quite clear why tree tax should not be recovered ~~for~~ from them for the

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one tree which the Ex Com^r proposes to
allow them to Tap. The privilege now ~~supposed~~ allowed
to Kan holders & Coffee Estate owners is not being
exercised to any great extent but if every
hidu validar should be allowed one tree
free of tax it may lead to considerable loss
of revenue, ^{which it is not necessary to forego to remove} ~~to~~ the difficulties of the
people ~~would be~~ ~~to~~ It will ~~be~~ remove
all their difficulties if they are allowed to
tap trees without the intervention of
a licensee of a shop as at present. ~~We have~~
It is necessary to remove invidious distinctions
between the three classes of people but it does
not necessarily mean that all distinctions
should be abolished altogether. The Coffee Estate
owners & Kan holders are entitled to certain
privileges at present which it is not
possible to ^{deprive them of} ~~deprive~~ but it is not necessary
to extend them in toto to the ~~to~~ hidu vali-
-dars. ~~or to give addⁿ concessions to the Coffee~~
45 Further there is no reason why the Coffee Estate
owner who is at present to pay free tax
for the trees tapped for domestic consumption,
as drink, should be exempted from such
payment for the three trees now proposed to
be given to him by the Ex Com^r
46 It would therefore perhaps be

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better to allow ~~three~~ ^{five} trees for Coffee Estate
owners only for bread making etc. and levy
tree tax on the trees tapped by them for
drinking and on the trees allowed to be
tapped by Hidaralidars. I showed
this is not considered feasible and free
tapping of one tree by a Hidaralidar
is considered necessary it may also be necessary
to specify that ~~he~~ if his bona fide domestic
requirements require more than one tree, such
number will also be allowed up to a
limit, provided that tree tax is paid
for them. According to the Ex. Comm's
proposal, a Hidaralidar requiring
two trees will have to open an
estate shop or go to an ordinary shop.
It may be convenient if he is allowed
one tree free, and 2 or 3 more on payment
of tree tax if he should require them

Revised

20.10.16

47. The points raised by the ~~Adm. Secy.~~
are submitted to consideration - but
for the present I again Comm's proposals
may be sanctioned & given a year's trial
before alterations are considered

48. Draft 21/10/16 for approval on the
order

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SK File No. 248 of 1912.

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208
20-10-16.

2nd Mark
d
Seram

SK
20/10
1916

49
The proposals involve change of
system - value of 3000 Rs.
Per. That is the hardship
complaint of - 1/2 of the
Cullerins - which I understand
to have been avoided of much
Even there they are granted

of
11.10

Sub
Please see the note
put up on the next page.

50. Note sub overleaf for
SK 21/10
1916

31/10/16.

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S.R.

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of 1912.

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51 The system in force.

N.

R.

(1) 1897 - In the Representative Assembly
certain planters complained of the
the hardship consequent on the
introduction of the D.D. system into
the Bagani area; and the G.O. of
20th June 1898 was the starting
point; wherein distinction was drawn
between ^{who were allowed trees} ~~Kantars~~ for drinking purposes,
Coffee ^{estate} ~~estate~~ owners for manufacture of
bread & other landholders who had no
such concession.

(2) 1906 & 1907.

The Representation was to the effect
that ordinary occupants in the
mahad were to be given free to
certain trees for domestic consumption
and ^{the} suggestion was a modification
of the D.D. system in the Bagani
area by the granting of trees for 5
years for a certain sum of money.
But Govt in March 1910 approved
of the proposal to minimise the
difficulties in getting trees marked.
& estate shops were allowed to be
opened for a small price of the
minimum of Rs 12/- per annum.

Z

S

Representations
(3) from 1912 to 1915

Representations were

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made to get certain trees marked for
bonafide domestic consumption - including
drinking purposes - to the owner ^{his family &} servants.

(4)

When the whole question was under
consideration of Govt in March 1914
it was considered equitable to extend
to ordinary landholders what was
provided ^{for} under the rules to Kan-
holders. On the analogy of the
~~concessions~~ concessions shown to Kan-
holders of the West Coast District
of the Madras Presidency and the
opinion expressed by the Indian
Excise Committee, ~~the Government~~
it was considered that a concess-
sion somewhat similar to the one
enjoyed by the Kanholder may
be given to the people in the bagan
area and the Excise Comm-
was requested to send up proposals
to be tried as an experimental
measure for 3 years, together with
information on certain points.
The letter under consideration is a
reply to the above.

(5) Medical Improvement

Attention is also invited

to the opinions expressed by the General

Pages 12 & 13 of these
rules - Supra -

0

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officers in connection with the malnad improve-
ment scheme regarding the suitability of
bagaim today as a beverage in preference to
arrack and other liquors and to the resolution
of the Central Committee of the 2nd June 1916.
Pars 3, 8, 13, 14, 24, 40, 46, 47, 48 & 56 of the
annexure to the G.O. 324 of 24th Feb 1914 and also
in the file)

(6) Hardship complained of:-

The representation of 1912 made to
the Desara Assembly mentions the
difficulty in particular. The bagaim tree
being sensitive and the yield therefrom
not being uniform, and there having been
some difficulty in getting trees marked
in time, the parties concerned wanted the
mediation of the Contractor to be done away
with. The estate ^{owners} who had no shop of their own
and their coolies had to go to a govt. shop to get
their drinks or go to the Contractor, pay the tree
tax to him and something more for getting trees
marked in time for today to be drawn by them.
They ^{felt} some inconvenience in this arrange-
ment and so landholders ^{in the malnad} wanted certain
trees to be given to them either free or on
payment of tree tax for drawing today
for themselves.

Representation of 1915
Flag 5.

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(7) Loss of Revenue. - If trees are given free of tree tax, then the loss will be as great as the Excise Commr represents it to be. But if trees are marked on pay-
^{as represented by certain members}ment of tree tax and ~~estate~~ Estate shops are given on a rental of Rs 3/- per manam there would be some loss on account of shop rental from foot-shops, but ^{but none under} the loss would be much less than ^{and} amount may not go up to Rs 30000/- . Increased facilities may require an increase in the supervising establishment in this special area to prevent abuse of this privilege.

When the minimum is fixed at Rs 3/- nobody would pay more. So this amount is taken for calculation

3- Nov Rev Enr
30/10/16 52. Submitted
2nd Member
& Dewan)

1.11.16

52
2.11.16.

2/11/16
gpb

53.
Under the circumstances & planned I have no objection to try the trials for a period of 3 years. Draft approved.

Dewan)

2/11/16
2/11/16
gpb

2324
3.11.16

The Excise Commissioner's proposals seem to be well considered and may be approved.

Please consult the Financial Secretary as loss of revenue is involved and circulate to Council. The papers may then be sent up for submission with Final Note.

11.1.17

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To Financial Secretary, with Compliments

Rs
15-1-17

18
1571

I think that the following course will meet all wants without sacrifice of revenue.

- (1) Coffee estates maybe allowed 3 trees ~~per~~ for domestic consumption according to practice & recommendation of Excise Commr. free of tree-tax
- (2) Kan-holders 2 ditto
- (3) Hirdavalidars 1 ditto but on pay of the ordinary rate of tree-tax.

To give trees free of tree-tax in cases where no sort of claim exists for the indulgence would be to encourage drinking.

If Coffee Estates holders & Kan-holders had not a sort of right by long usage to exemption from tree-tax, I would recommend the tax in their case also.

As regards Estate shops I see no reason why to allow such shops on Rs 36 per annum instead of the average of Rs 86. If an Estate requires a shop an application maybe made to the Excise authorities & a shop will be opened if necessary on the usual auction system.

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59
sent. Secy for favour of circulation, as
directed at para 55.

102
872/12 N8p

60 So far as the Copper planters & the
Kand^{holding} are concerned, the members
of the Council are remembered & very
well known - But I don't see why a
handwritten notes be in the hands
of the Secy a copy be sent at 5 p.m.
for the next 3 days. I have no
objection to the one free & com.
news.

19/2 102

133
22.2.17.

61. Subd to 2nd member for favour of
D. F. N. (Please see Dewan's note at
para 55 above.)

62 The following extract from
the 2nd member's minute of 22.2.17
in the file re Excess Sales Note
of 17-18, is also put up
for information.

102
22.2.17

"The Excess Sales today
rules will have to be discussed
in Council as there is difference
of opinion. That file therefore
should be separated & sent
to Council Section. It will
take time to settle that
question."

63
b Fude can be prepared
ill a Council that is arranged
at a meeting I think
some agreement will be
arrived at

102
23/2

4896
24.2.17

Dewan)

64 102
20/2

102
23.2.17.

N823p

Extract from the Proceedings of the.....416th.....Meeting of the Council
of His Highness the Maharaja, held at.....Mysore.....
on the.....30th April.....19 17

11. Subject.-Clause viii of the Schedule.

Grant of certain concessions to the Malnad land holders for tapping
bagani trees in their holdings for bona fide domestic purposes.

OPINION OF THE COUNCIL.

The first two concessions recommended by the Excise Commissioner
may be approved. Hiduvalidars need not be allowed any shop on their
holdings.

(Sd) M. Vigneswaraya
Dewan of Mysore

EXTRACT

D. N. Srinivasan
Secretary to Government
General Department

G. R. S. 12]

General and Revenue
Secretariat.

File No.

of 191

Serial
No.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Council is put up.
Forwarded with compliments to the Secretary to
Government.,.....Revenue Department,.....
for favour of necessary further action.

By Order.

D. M. Nanyal
Secretary to Government,
General Department,

To the Assistant Secretary, Br. III, for kindly
submitting the file to the Second Member of Coun-
cil with a draft Final Note.

Done
YJ
YJ

Draft Final Note is now submitted

for approval

Es
9-5

Secd) There is some difference
in effect between the first and
second parts of the Council Resolution.
The third commission recommended
by the Exchequer Council related to
both ~~Kanda~~ Kanholders and

General and Revenue
Secretariat.

SR File No. 248 of 1912

Serial
No.

Hidurvalidars. The concession ~~to~~
in respect of the former was
apparently intended to be allowed
only the latter being denied the
privilege. (Vide 1st member's note
at para 60 of the notes). If this
is correct, not only the 1st + 2nd
concessions recommended by the
Excise Commr. but also part of
the third, so far as it related to
the Kan holders, would have
to be allowed. The D. F. N. and
the draft order will be suitably
modified on orders being passed
on this point.

409
15.5.17

2nd member)

thru 'fuel fee

- D F N. is approved Please
improve it 76 10/2/17
up to 4

4
16.5.17

Please put up a clean copy of the D F N.
as revised

16.5.17 1912/

Submitted

Secy

G. R. S. 12]

31

General and Revenue
Secretariat.

SR File No. 248 of 1912.

Serial
No.Subd with a revised D. F. N. (Attention
is also invited to the routine note below).

258.

25.5.17.

2nd member)B2
25.5.17Name cancelled in list
670.19. Some instructions are
necessary

hp

J. S. =

Final Note signed by the member.

with
26/5

Subd with a D. F. N. and a D. S. N.

(Dewan)

B2
26.5.17

6794

26.5.17

B2
26/5

Meeting
(For disposal by ~~circulation~~)

(L)
No. C. 121/8-17
13.2.1917

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

Council Matter.

SUBJECT.

Grant of certain concessions to the malnad land holders for tapping bagani trees in their holdings for bondfide domestic purposes.

CIRCULATED TO THE MEMBERS OF COUNCIL.

11th February.....191 7

By Order,
D. M. Narayana
Secretary to Government.

Extraordinary Member of Council.

28.4.17 *one*

1866
15.2 First Member of Council.

open up recorded by the 18 members
one

328
13-2-17 Second Member of Council.

14.2 *one*

Final Note by the Second Member of Council.

Subject:—

Grant of certain concessions to the malnad landholders for tapping bagani trees in their holdings for bonafide domestic purposes.

2 The question of the grant of certain concessions to malnad landholders for tapping bagani trees in their holdings for bonafide domestic purposes has been under consideration for some time past and the subject has also been repeatedly brought forward in the Representative Assembly meetings.

The difficulty of tapping bagani trees at the proper time owing to the delay in getting them marked was brought to the notice of Government, who accordingly passed an order in 1900 creating certain facilities and dispensing with some formalities which tended to delay in the issue of licenses and the marking of trees. The Patel was authorised to receive the tree tax and on his certificate the Assistant Inspector could arrange for the marking of trees without previous verification as to details.

The complaint, however, remained that marking was not done in time and it was urged that the mediation of the contractor of Government shops should be dispensed with altogether.

Paper under disposal The subject received further consideration, as a result of which the Excise Commissioner has recommended^x the grant of the following concessions to land holders in the malnad with regard to bagani toddy tentatively for a period of three years:—

1. Coffee Planters, Kanholders and Hiduvalidars may be allowed to tap bagani trees free for bona fide domestic consumption to the following extent annually:—

Coffee Planters	...	Up to a maximum of 3 trees
Kanholders	...	-- do -- 2 trees
Hiduvalidars		-- do -- 1 tree.

2. Coffee Planters may be allowed to open estate shops at the minimum rent of Rs.3/- per mensem,

and 3. Kanholders and Hiduvalidars may be allowed to open estate shops on the same terms as coffee planters.

The proposed concessions are, it is calculated, likely to cause loss of revenue approximately to the extent of Rs.30,000 annually. The Financial Secretary, who was consulted, is of opinion^x that the proposed concessions may be limited as follows:-

Page 25 of
Office Notes

(a) the Hiduvalidars to be given the one tree annually on payment of tree tax, and not free.

(b) The estate shops should be disposed of by auction and not granted at the minimum rate of Rs.3/- per mensem.

Page 28 of

-do- The whole question was discussed in Council and it was decided^x that the first two concessions proposed by the Excise Commissioner may be granted as an experimental measure for a period of 3 years and that as regards the 3rd concession, the Hiduvalidars need not be given the privilege of opening shops on their holdings, which may be allowed only to Kanholders.

Draft for approval The resolution of the Council and the draft order prepared in accordance therewith may be approved.

26th May 1917


Member of Council.

26.5.17

Submitted to His Highness

2

*I submit herewith a Final Note by the ²Second
Member of Council on the subject of...grant of certain
concessions to the Malnad land-holders for tapping Bagani
trees in their holdings for bona fide domestic purposes,
for His Highness' gracious approval.*

M. Yashwantrao

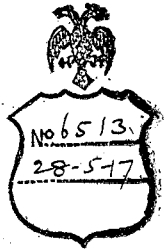
Dewan.

28th May 1917.

SPL

Record of Cases submitted for the Orders
of His Highness the Maharaja.

Subject.



Grant of certain concessions
to the Malnad Landholders for tapping
Bagani trees in their holdings for
bona fide domestic purposes.

1227

Order.

~~KRIL~~
30/5/17

Sanitary Rd
31.5.17 do 1/6
m II
Issue
82
1.6.17
2/6/17

Routine Notes.

[Notes, etc., not intended for permanent record.]

See the file

SL 248-12-7

Subd

in collection containing

SL 248-12-7 is herewith

Subd for personal

M. G. M.

The papers

5/3/9

have been sent

to the Secy for

personal of the C. R. R.

M. G. M. -

Phase 2000000

18

20/7/17

Subd

SL 248-12 (168) is herewith

Subd as ordered for submission to the
Financial Secretary

M. G. M.

4/7/17

E. G. M.

M. G. M.
5/8

M. G. M.

Number

N.B.—Should routine notes be written on small slips,
the notes must be copied, or slips pasted on
this form.

G. R. S. III-2]

General and Revenue
Secretariat.

S. R. File No. 248 of 1912.

Serial
No.

20

The Excise Comr.

A. C. S. of Shimoga, Kadur
Hassan etc. for comm. to the
R. A. - member concerned.Sg. Comrs. of other etc.
Comptroller.Secy. Central Com. M. D. S. Com.
No. 71. 7473-83 dated 11-6-17Sanctions. The grant of certain
concessions to the Malnad
land-holders for tapping ba gani
trees in their holdings for bona
fide domestic purpose.

1512 ✓

SUBJECT No. 226.

Bagani trees on hiduvali lands.

Mr. T. Narasinga Rao, North
Mysore Native Planters' Association.

DIARY NO. 4682

10/2-10 13	
SECTION	52
FILE NO.	248 - 12
SERIAL	216. 1

Summary of discussion.—Land-holders in the malnad may be allowed to tap *bagani* trees on their lands for their *bona fide* use without any loss of revenue to the State.

Messrs. Srinivasa Rao and Vasudeva Rao represented that they did not want the mediation of a contractor in regard to the tapping of bagani trees and desired that at least ten trees may be allowed to each land-holder for domestic consumption including consumption by servants.

Reply of Government.—The last suggestion will be considered in consultation with the Excise Commissioner.

12
2/0
G.R.S. 26]

Requests that a report
may be submitted on the
subject of giving out-
bagan trees for domestic
consumption in the Malabar.

File No. 2488

Serial No. 2

Diary No of letter replied to

4682

General and Revenue Secretariat

(*802*)
, the 19

ssue. 5 June/13

Signed by *W Rajagopalakrishnan*

Subject-matter papers under
disposal.

No. *7047*

To

5 June/13

The Excise Commr in Mysore

Sir,

I am directed to
write your attention to
subject no: 226 of the
proceedings of the
Representative Assembly
of 1912 regarding ^{the grant of} the
permission to a landholder
in the Malabar to tap
bagan trees on his land
for domestic consumption
over.

SUBJECT.

without the mediation of the
contractor, and to request
you to be so good as to submit
a report on the subject
~~with special reference to the~~ on the
feasibility of the ~~pro~~ proposal
and the change, if any, ^{desired}
to be made in the rules — 2/6
now in force

I have etc

Sd/

For Secretary to Govt

Mr. Secy
-83
31/5/13 -

List of enclosures,

Copied by

Examined by

II
4/10 mS
No 3435
Gene:5

OFFICE OF THE EXCISE COMMISSIONER IN MYSORE.

Bangalore, dated.....September.....1913.

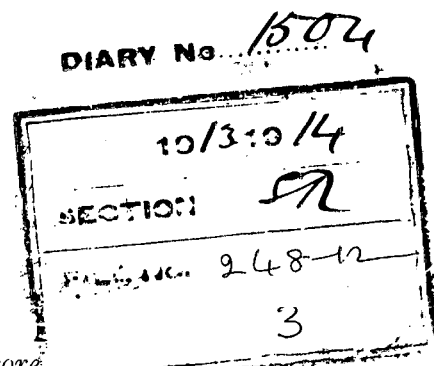
2-10

FROM

M. Kantaraj Urs, Esq., B.A.,
Excise Commissioner in Mysore.

TO

K.R. Srinivasiengar, Esq., M.A.,
Secretary to the Government of
His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore,
General and Revenue Departments.



Sir,

With reference to your No. Fl.7047/S.R.248-12-2, dated 5th June 1913 and subsequent reminder, I have the honor to enclose a note on the subject and to state that I am not in favour of the prayer being granted for reasons stated therein.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

M. Kantaraj Urs

Excise Commissioner.

[Signature]

N O T E

The toddy system working at present in the Bagani tracts is, for a certain area comprising some villages to be attached to a shop and this shop is put up for sale. The purchaser has to depend upon the Bagani trees in the area for toddy for his shop. They are mostly hiduvali trees there being very few or no Government Kams like "un-occupied date groves" where he could draw his supply from. The consumers in the shop comprise mostly of the people of the villages who are all Kandars or their Jitgars or dependents. After the introduction of the Tree-tax System into the Bagani area, these contractors have the sole right of the disposal of the toddy in their vend area. Now, if a hiduvalidar wants his own toddy he gets it by paying the Tree-tax to the Government contractor who remits it to the Treasury and gets the tree marked and the other formalities observed. The toddy of the tree is utilised by the hiduvalidar and not for the shop. The hiduvalidar is not put into any great difficulty for his toddy. But if what is asked ^{for} by the Representative Members is analysed, it amounts to ^{this, viz,} the Hiduvalidar a prominent non-toddy drinker in ^a the majority of cases, leasing out his trees to the consumer for a sum which may be more ^{than} or equal to the rate of Tree-tax and thus placing himself in the ^{possession} of Government by getting the Tree-tax into his own pocket. The majority of people in the Malnad ^{thus} will not be benefited by the concession. ~~Now~~ If a consumer is poor and cannot afford to pay the Tree-tax, he has got the shop to fall back upon.

2 The Deputy Commissioner, Kadur, is right in saying that, Government will have to close all their shops in case the prayer is granted. Every Malnad man is either a Hiduvalidar or his employee.

3. Estate shops are allowed only to coffee planters and the right cannot be extended to the Hiduvalidars. The object of the concession is to guard against the scattering away of the coolies in the interests of the important industry of coffee cultivation. Native planters are also allowed the same concession.

4. Kandars are even now granted, free of tax, ~~one tree~~ for each adult male of the family after proper enquiry by the Deputy Commissioner.

5. It will work against the interests of the Government shops if ordinary Hiduvalidars of Kans are also allowed trees, free of tax.

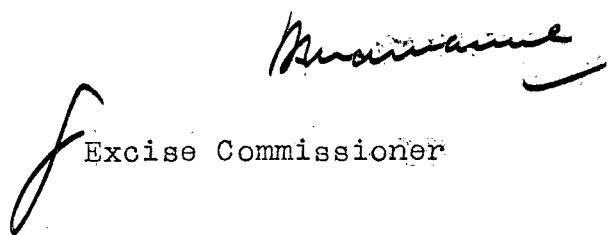
6. This question was fully discussed by Mr. Kearns before the introduction of the Tree-tax system into the Bagani area.

7. For purposes of speedy marking, as the Bagani tree has to be tapped at a particular period, when it throws ^{out} a spathe. Unlike date tree, special concessions are allowed. The Deputy Commissioners have reported that the innovations are working satisfactorily and that there are no complaints now.

8. Going into figures the accompanying statement shows the expansion of the Bagani Revenue from 1897-98 to 1912-13.

9. By allowing the ordinary Hiduvalidar of a Kan to enjoy the Tree-tax, or as he puts it, enjoy the toddy of the Bagani tree without payment of the Tree-tax, there will be ^a loss of Revenue to Government of about Rs 35000/- without on the other hand benefiting the consumer to any appreciable extent. The Hiduvalidar of a date grove is not enjoying the concession.

10 The Deputy Commissioners of the Bagani Districts are not in favour of the grant of the prayer. Copies of their reports are enclosed for information.


Excise Commissioner

Statement showing the expansion of the Bagani Revenue from
1897-98 to 1912-1913.

Year.	Rental.	Tree-tax	Total.
1897 - 1898	R. 4870-15- 5	R. 13097-11- 6	R. 17968-10-11
1898 - 1899	9768-15-11	12649- 7- 4	22418- 7- 3
1899 - 1900	15035- 2- 8	23140- 3- 6	38175- 6- 2
1900 - 1901	25747-14- 0	27833- 4- 6	53581- 2- 6
1901 - 1902	22348- 4- 0	27313-12- 0	49662- 0- 0
1902 - 1903	22484- 4- 8	24980- 5- 3	47464- 9-11
1903 - 1904	25708 -4- 6	24237- 9- 6	49945-14- 0
1904 - 1905	28374- 4- 5	29452- 9- 2	57826-13- 7
1905 - 1906	33195- 3- 0	31720- 5- 5	64915- 8- 5
1906 - 1907	35982- 4- 6	30708- 9- 8	66690-14- 2
1907 - 1908	32209- 1-11	32929-10- 9	65138-12- 8
1908 - 1909	36023- 5- 5	33380-10- 8	69404- 0- 1
1909 - 1910	35539-15- 8	32657- 7- 8	68197- 7- 4
1910 - 1911	39550- 5- 2	31820-13- 8	71371- 2-10
1911 - 1912	43159- 6- 3	33171-15- 0	76331- 5- 3
1912 - 1913	44184-10- 6	34217- 5- 6	78402- 0- 0

Excise Commissioner's Office,
Dated, Bangalore, 2nd October 1913.

B. R. S. S.
Excise Commissioner

would propose that the following privileges be conferred upon them:-

1. Every Hiduvalidar or Khatadar to have the right to tap not more than three trees, free of tax, for his own bona fide domestic use.
2. Every Hiduvalidar on proving to the satisfaction of the Deputy Commissioner or District Excise Officer that he has a legitimate demand for liquor for the use of his servants to be allowed to open a shop for the use of his servants, coolies etc., subject to the payment of a fixed shop rent of not less than Rs 12/- as in the case of the ~~corree~~ planters.

The abolition of the tree-foot sales.

The introduction of these measures pre-supposes, of course, the entire abolition of the existing "Bari" System whereby the Hiduvalidar gets from the contractor a share of the toddy tapped from each tree in his land, and which has become practically synonymous with tree-foot sales, and has been responsible for quite a frightful amount of all manner of illicit practices.

Effect of the measures.

8. The conferring of these privileges would put an end to the present vexatious and incessant strife between the hiduvalidar and the contractor and their respective agents, and would very much reduce the widely prevalent illicit tapping: once the hiduvalidar gets to understand that, on payment of a moderate sum, he would get all that he expects from his illicit practices and that without the risk of discovery and punishment, he would desist from indulging in his old methods.

No loss of Revenue to Government.

9. I am satisfied that these measures will not cause any appreciable diminution in Excise Revenue but may even increase it. Even if the introduction of the fixed shop rent system should mean some loss under "shop rental", it will be more than compensated by the increase under tree-tax, as more trees are likely to be taken up, seeing that the incentives to illicit tapping will be very largely taken away and that

3.

that the Hiduvalidar and the contractor will not stand in each other's way

" Copy "

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'K. Manan' or similar, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

for Excise Commissioner.

A small, stylized handwritten mark or signature, possibly a monogram or initials, located below the text 'for Excise Commissioner.'

Letter No. 27, dated 24/26th July 1913, from the Deputy Commissioner, Hassan District, to the Excise Commissioner in Mysore.

With reference to your docket No. 9232-34, dated 10th June 1913, forwarding copy of Government order No. Fl.7047/S.R.248-12-2, dated the 5th Idem, regarding the grant of permission to a land holder in the Malnad to tap Baganitrees in his land for domestic consumption without the mediation of a contractor etc., I have the honor to state that the proposal is far from feasible. The present paucity of Government Bagani trees has the effect of placing the Bagani shop contractors entirely at the mercy of Hiduvalidars and cases are not wanting in which for various reasons the latter, have sometimes refused to give trees to contractors and thus put them to serious loss, the latter being obliged to pay the monthly shop-rentals without being able to work them. A case of this kind has just come to notice, in which one Venkataswami, the present year's contractor of the Jambaradi and Agani shops, competed against last year's contractor and displaced him and thus deprived him of the privilege which he has been enjoying for some years past, with the consequence that the latter who commands a lot of influence in the village and the neighbourhood, has, out of revenge, induced the hiduvalidars to refuse to give any trees to the current year's contractor who has thus been obliged to keep the shops practically closed.

2. Another instance of the kind has been brought to notice by the ~~same~~ contractor who, it is believed, has also purchased the shops at Mudigere and Joginkere of the Kadur District. It is stated that the local Hiduvalidars who are all powerful and who had hitherto monopolised the privilege of vending Bagani toddy in the two shops, and who owing to a strong combination among themselves, had all along kept down the shop rental have now been defying Venkataswami and declining to rent out any trees to him to work the two shops which have thus to be kept closed for want of trees. It is also stated that they have been dictating terms to him, and asking him to sub-let the Joginkere shop for Rs 100/- which he is not willing to do, knowing that the con-

concern is much more profitable and expecting to earn a much greater profit than what has been offered him. It is in fact urged, that but for this difficulty securing the hiduvali Bagani trees to work the --- shop and the dependance of ~~666~~ contractors on private land-holders for trees, the shops would fetch a shop rental 4 or 5 times the present amount.

3. When such is the attitude of hiduvalidars, towards contractors, when, as per rules obtaining at present they are dependent for their drink on the latter the consequences can better be imagined than described, when the land-lords are made independent of contractors to tap their trees. In some places like Halebelur near Saklespur where almost all the residents of a village consisting of 100 to 150 houses are given to drinking, and each possesses a hithal or back-yard of his own with half a dozen Bagani trees in his holding, any system of the kind proposed will not only prevent the contractor getting any trees for his shop, but the shop itself would become unnecessary, as none of these would care to go and buy their drink in the shop when he can get it tapped a couple of yards from his own house. Under the proposed system, therefore, it is feared that the important item of shop-rental would altogether fail which the Department can ill-afford to do.

4. But this is not the only evil consequence of the proposal. Land-holders taking advantage of the proposed system, would not only use the toddy for their domestic consumption, but would be tempted to resort to illicit sale of the liquor to out-siders on the pretext of their being their servants and dependents. While on the ^{one} ~~other~~ hand it would be well neigh impossible for departmental officers to effectually check and put down such mal-practices, it would on the other strike at the very root of the existence of any Bagani shops at all. Such a concession would ~~in effect~~ be converting every petty land-holder into a contractor and vendor of toddy, with this difference, that he would enjoy the privilege without the payment of a shop-rental on his part.

5. Even the limit of ten trees proposed by Messrs. Srinivasa Rao and Vasudeva Rao as a safe guard against mal-practices, will - - ultimately prove to be more or less an illusion. The moment the landholder should reach the limit proposed, and find the yield of toddy in -adequate for his purposes, he would certainly resort to illicit - - tapping. The fact that Bagani trees are marked not in the order in which they are situated, as in the case of date trees, but in the - - order in which they put forth arms fit for tapping and the marked -- trees are thus scattered over extensive areas, sometimes hundreds and thousands of acres ~~in~~ extent, the proposed system will be far from minimising the present difficulty of departmental officers in putting down illicit tapping and other malpractices.

6. With a view to ascertain the necessity or otherwise of the proposed change, it would be as well to consider the present system, which regulates the relationship between the contractor, the tapper and the hiduvalidar or land holder. It has been ascertained that in some cases the tapper buys up the right of tapping all the Bagani trees in a holding for a fixed rental. He also undertakes to pay the --- tree-tax though for the sake of formality he gets the application for trees signed by the contractor, and to sell all the toddy to the - - contractor at ~~sixteen~~ shares per rupee, retaining a couple of seers of the liquor for his own domestic consumption. In ~~such~~ a case, the landholder has to buy his toddy from the shop-keeper, like any ordinary consumer. In some cases, the landholders decline to accept any tree rent, but to allow their trees to be tapped on what is known as the "Bari" system in which they get in return one day's yield for their own use once in every three days. In this system the tapper gets the yield for the other two days, unless the contractor has paid the tree-tax, in which case, the tapper, the owner and the contractor will have equal privileges of enjoying the toddy. In this system the tapper invariably enters into an agreement with the contractor to sell ~~the~~ surplus of his share of the "Bari" to the contractor at the rate above referred to. The landholder has thus to purchase ~~for~~ his supply for the other two days from the contractor.

7 Such a system cannot possibly be said to cause any inconvenience or hardship to any land-holder who can not only get the necessary rent for his trees, but can easily purchase whatever quantity of toddy he requires for his domestic use, and there is nothing which is true or applicable in the case of the Bagani, which is not equally true or applicable in the case of the date, and the system of vending the - - liquor of the latter description has not been known to cause any sort of inconvenience whatsoever. Nor can contractors be said to have it in their power to tease or harass land holders in the matter of the supply of their drink. If the latter are dependent on the contractors to tap their trees these are much more dependent on the land-holders, as has ~~already~~ been already explained above, and can hardly assume to dictate terms to them. In fact the present system must be said to be the best, not only from the point of view of Government Revenue, but also because it is the only way to hold the balance evenly between them, and which alone can induce them both to adopt a give and take policy with reference to each other.

" Copy "

M. M. M. M. M.

for Excise Commissioner.

Docket No. 35, dated 24th July 1913, from the Deputy Commissioner Shemoga District to the Excise Commissioner in Mysore

Adverting to his docket No. 9232-34, dated 12th Ultimo and remind-
-er thereon No. 838-40, dated 19th Instant, regarding the grant of
permission to a land-holder in the Malnad to tap Bagani trees on his
land for domestic consumption without the mediation of a contractor,
has the honor to state that as per para I (ii) contained in his Cir-
-cular Memorandum No. 9295-302, dated 28th April 1910, the Kan-holder
has the privilege of drawing toddy free of tax from the toddy-yielding
trees in his Kan only for the use of the members of his family, but
not for sale or for the use of his servants etc. If similar conces-
-sion is also shown, to the land-holders in the Malnad, it will cause
loss to the renter who purchases the Bagani toddy shop in auction
sales as most of the drinking population in the Malnad are either the
Kan or land-holders who choose to apply for trees for home consump-
-tion.

" Copy "



for Excise Commissioner

Fidy Draft

G. R. S. 26]

7/5

Diary No. of letter replied to 1504

General and Revenue Secretariat

(809)
the 191

Date of issue 11th May/14

Signed by W. R. S. S. S. S.

perfer under disposal

Requests the Excise Commr to furnish addl^l information on ^{certain} principles in the bagain area

File No. 2487
Serial No. 4

No. JB 530 -

2 11th May/14

To

The Excise Commr in Mysore.

Sir,

Adverting to your letter no: 3433 of the 2/10/13 regarding the grant of certain concessions to landholders in the malnad in the matter of tapping toddy from bagain trees situated in their holdings for bona fide domestic consumption, I am directed to state that with a view to determine the

over.

SUBJECT.

10/5/14

expediency of extending to them for three years, as an experimental measure, a concession somewhat similar to that granted to a Kanholder, Govt desire to have information on the following points :-

(1) How many Kanholders are at present enjoying the privilege of getting trees marked for domestic consumption and how is the tapping controlled in these cases?

(2) How many owners of coffee estates get trees marked or drawing toddy for bona fide domestic purposes, such as making of bread, etc?

(3) What is the minimum extent of a Kan or a coffee estate enjoying the privileges point?

(4) The minimum extent

List of enclosures,

Copied by

Examined by

G.R.S. 27]

GENERAL AND REVENUE
SECRETARIAT.

(Continuation sheet draft form.)

of a holding, the possession
of which may, in your opinion,
be recognised as giving a title
to the proposed privilege.

(5) The principles which
may be laid down to guide
the local officers in allotting
trees to each owner, the probable
number of land owners likely
to be benefited by this privilege,
~~specify~~ the probable number of
trees which may be required
for their use, according to
the standard you suggest
and ~~the~~ ^{the} safeguards which
have to be adopted to prevent
the abuse of the privilege.

2. I am to request you to
be so good as to furnish early
full information on each
of the points referred to above.
I have etc

Wm
6/5

25/3
4/5/14

SW ✓

Am
6/5

Dues
5/5
Office Secy to Govt.

11/13

1915-16

From

The Secretary, Central Committee,
Malnad Improvement Scheme,
Shimoga District.

To

The Secretary to the Government
of Mysore, General Department,
Bangalore.

Dated 24th

Despatched 30 June 1916.

Received

General No. 115

No.

Enclosure No.

S u b j e c t.

Submits proposals of the Central
Committee regarding ~~the~~ the
free removal of bagani Toddy for home
consumption from trees standing on land
in holding.

to be an article of food as well as of drink in the malnad.
All that is now necessary is to renew the privilege which the
ryots were once enjoying. Under the circumstances, I have
the honor to request that ^{the} sanction of Government may kindly
be obtained to the proposal of the Central Committee to allow
ryots in the malnad to draw Bagane Toddy free for house con-
sumption from trees on lands in their holding.

3. A copy of my note, placed before the Central
Committee, is also submitted herewith for reference.

I have the Honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

M. Appanna

Secretary, Central Committee,

Malnad Improvement Scheme,

Shimoga District.

Cr

H.N.K.

Enc. to Sany. 5-16-1,

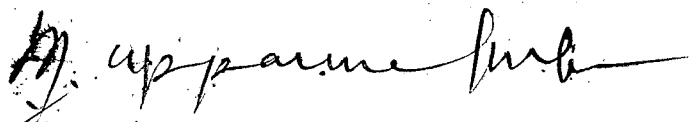
Copy of note by the Secretary, Central Committee in the matter of allowing the ryots in the malnad the privilege of drawing Bagane Toddy.

-----:0:-----

From enquiries made, it is learnt that the malnad villagers have suffered considerably in their stamina ever since the privilege of drawing of their own Bagane Toddy was stopped. The concensus of opinion is that the old order of things should be renewed. It is also ascertained that the present system of resorting to costlier and stranger distilled liquors has been the cause of the financial and physical ruin of the malnad ryot. The experiment of making Bagane Toddy available more freely may be tried with advantage. In fact, the feeling of this point in the malnad is pronouncedly in favour of this proposal.

-----:0:-----

" C o p y "


Secretary

Central Committee

Malnad Improvement,

Shimoga.

A.C. No: 467-46-2

Encl. Statement

OFFICE OF THE EXCISE COMMISSIONER IN MYSORE,

Bangalore, dated...26th..August...1916.

DIARY No 576

GEN. & REV. SECT
2 SEP 1916

FROM

P. RAGHAVENDRA RAO, Esq., B.A., B.L.,

Excise Commissioner in Mysore.

To

12/6-12/17
SECTION S.R.
248-12
SERIAL No. 6

L. Krishna Rao, Esquire,

Offg. Secretary to the Government of

His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore,

Revenue Department.

SIR,

Adverting to your letter No. Fl. 5302 /S.R. 248-12-4, dated 11th May 1914, and subsequent reminders thereto, in the matter of the grant of certain concessions to Malnad land-holders for tapping bagani trees in their holdings for bona fide domestic purposes, I have the honor to state that the Deputy Commissioners of Hassan, Kadur and Shimoga Districts were called upon to furnish the information required and that their replies are summarised in the tab statement sent enclosed.

2. After a full consideration of the reports of the Deputy Commissioners and other records connected with the subject and as the result of my own personal impressions formed during my tours in the three Malnad Districts, I have come to the following conclusion as to the extent of the concessions that may be granted. The main considerations to be borne in mind in arriving at any decision in the matter are (1) the removal of invidious or unfair distinction between ordinary landholders and planters, (2) the discountenance of any sudden, or serious, increase in the consumption of intoxicants and (3) the safeguarding, consistently with the above two objects, of the interests of Government Revenue.

3. The entire removal of all restrictions on the tapping of bagani trees, so that any one may be at liberty to tap any number of

AS

AS

FROM

P. RAGHAVENDRA RAO, Esq., B.A., B.L
Excise Commissioner in Mysore,

To

*Secretary to the Government of
H. H. the Maharaja of Mysore,
Revenue Department.*

Dated 26th August 1916

Despatched 30th August 1916

Received

General No. 2172

Enclosure No.

SUBJECT.

of trees, ~~xx~~ that he may like, for domestic or dependent's consumption, without having to get his trees marked, or to pay any tree-tax to Government is what some of the Dasara Representative Assembly Members seem to want. Such a wholesale change is, in my opinion, quite unthinkable. It would be tantamount to the repeal of the Excise Regulation so far as bagani toddy was concerned and would mean an appalling increase in drink as also the total wiping out of the Excise Revenue under bagani toddy.

4. On the other hand, it has to be recognised that there is a disproportionately large consumption of arrack and other distilled liquors in the Malnad, not to speak of the fact that illicit distillation is rife in many parts of the Malnad to an extent quite unknown in maidan Districts. This is partly at least, due to the difficulty of obtaining bagani toddy-the national drink, so called of the Malnad- and the fact that bagani trees are fast diminishing as hiduvalidars have no interest in growing the tree, which is a delicate one requiring much careful looking after quite unlike the date palm which grows wild, given only suitable soil &c. If, therefore, hiduvalidars were to be given some incentive to look after, and growing of bagani trees, it is reasonable to hold that the additional facilities so given in the case of the consumption of bagani toddy would have the effect of displacing arrack and other strong liquors to a considerable extent.

5. In view of these facts and considerations, I am of opinion that the following concessions may be tried for a period of three years, as remarked by you, and after the experience gained in that period, the question of the final solution of the matter take up

- (1) The maximum of number of trees to be allowed to be tapped free for bona fide domestic consumption, such as bread-making, &c., should be as below:-

Coree-planters	Three (Annually)
Kan-holders	Two -do- -
Hiduvalidars	One -do- -

DB

(2) All coffee-planters to be entitled ~~to~~ to Estate shops which they are now enjoying, subject to a minimum shop rent of Rs 3/- per month.

Kan-holders and hiduvalidars may be granted the same privilege, on the same terms, provided they show to the satisfaction of the Deputy Commissioner, that they have a legitimate demand for such shops for the use of their coolies and dependants. An appeal may lie from the decision of the Deputy Commissioner to the Excise Commissioner whose decision shall be final.

6. Before passing on to the question of the effects of this proposal on the Excise Revenue from Bagani toddy, it may be well to interject a few remarks as to the origin and history of 'Estate shops' and the exemption of "bread-making or 'domestic' toddy from tree-tax." At the time of the Rendition, the coffee planters seem to have been permitted to tap bagani trees standing on their own lands, free of tree-tax, for bread-making only, on account of the difficulty then experienced in getting bread. "Domestic purpose" then is clearly seen not to have included the drinking of toddy but to have been confined to this bread-making and also perhaps jaggory and vinegar making. Gradually this meaning was relaxed and drinking by one's own family came to be included in the term, and the concession was extended to "kan-holders" also in the year 1895. By long usage and actual practice, the expression "Domestic purposes" ^{does A.} undoubtedly, include now the drinking of toddy by one's family. The Estate shops were established, when the tree-tax system was introduced into the bagani area, for the convenience of coffee planters, as it was felt that without such a privilege they could not keep the estate coolies within the estate, as they would stray away in search of bagani toddy and the work in the estates could not go on properly. Neither in the "Coffee Settlement" nor in the Government Order relating to kan-holders is any limit -- fixed to the number of trees that may be so granted free of tax for domestic consumption, although in practice it has rarely exceeded

three.

DB

three. It is proposed now to fix a limit as shown in para 5 above, to guard against any abuse of the privilege. With the grant of the new concessions there might be an eager desire to exhaust first the free trees, before taking up the Estate shops; hence the necessity for fixing a rigid maximum. The shop is for all dependents, servants, &c., but if any man wants more than one tree for bona fide domestic consumption, he must not grudge paying a small price for it. Any concession beyond this would simply create undue facilities for drink. The grant of an Estate shop on the same term as the coffee-planter is all that can be reasonably expected by the hiduvalidar. At present the rent of an Estate shop is fixed at a minimum of Re 1/-, but I am afraid that there is an almost universal tendency to treat this as if it were a fixed rent. Very rarely are estate shops charged with a higher rent, although this is clearly what was intended should be done, whenever a shop commands a large custom so as to be lucrative to the owner of the estate. With the extension of this privilege now to all landholders, whether coffee planters or not, unless steps are taken to avoid the continuance of the vicious practice, it is to be feared that our revenue would be wantonly sacrificed. Hence the proposed enhancement in the minimum shop rent.

7. As to the effect of these concessions on Revenue any estimate that we can now form must, to a very large extent, be necessarily conjectural, though an approximate forecast has been attempted.

From the latest figures available, the average annual rent of a bagani shop is Rs 86/-. Assuming that half the number of the existing shops would be replaced by the new kind of estate shops, it is clear that we lose on every shop (Rs 86-36) Rs 50 or Rs 50 x 320 = or Rs 16000 annually in all. The remaining Government shops must continue to be sold annually as now, till they are also replaced by estate shops, or become unnecessary for other reasons. As regards tree-tax, I think we are safe in assuming that there will not be a fall of more than one-third (if even so much) in the number of trees

$$\frac{55000}{640} = 86.25$$

640

Rs 36,440

2

Q trees that are now annually tapped, so that the loss on this account may be taken as not exceeding Rs 12,000 (vide Excise Administration Report for the year 1914-15). Thus the total fall in the income is Rs 28,000 or say Rs 30,000, which is after all not very considerable. I would recommend the trial of the -- system for three years before making it permanent or introducing any further changes. I would also suggest that these concessions, if approved, may be published in three successive issues of the Mysore Gazette and the public apprised that all that -- intend to apply for the concessions should do so in writing to the Deputy Commissioners concerned before the end of the current Calendar year, so that there may be time to revise the annual - schedules to the Sale Notification for 1917-18, excluding the - areas which are going to be served by the new estate shops.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
D. Srinivasan
Assistant Commissioner,
for Excise Commissioner,
absent from the station.

MRG.

[Signature]

Copy made
10/12

47 (9)

SUBJECT No. 176.

Bagani trees on hiduvali lands.

- 1) Mr. T. Narasinga Rao, North Mysore Native Planters' Association.
- 2) Mr. Kalle Gowda, Mudgere taluk.

Summary of discussion.—(1) Land-holders in malnad may be allowed to tap bagani trees on their lands for their *bona fide* use. This will not involve any loss of revenue to the State.

(2) *Per contra.*—If the suggestion made last year to give each *hiduvalidar* the right to tap ten *bagani* trees on *hiduvali* lands is favourably considered it is likely to encourage drinking which is one of the causes for the decimation of the malnad population. It is requested therefore that the prayer may not be granted.

Reply of Government.—Under consideration.

DIARY NO 5193

10/3-10/14
SECTION 57
FILE NO. 248-12
DATE NO. 10

There is a file already on the subject and a report is due from the Exercise Committee. The 2nd part of the representation has to be considered along with the general question.

A draft is ruled for order

17/7/14
20

Issue

24 7 14

SUBJECT No. 778.

Right to date trees on *hidu-*
vali lands in Koppa.Mr. Channakesava Rao, Koppa
taluk.

Summary of Representation.—Right to draw toddy from the date trees on *hiduvali* lands in the Koppa taluk may as before be vested in the *hiduvalidars*, as otherwise raivats will be reduced to poverty.

148

19/4/15

SECTION	52
FILE No.	248-12
SERIAL No.	185

the question of allowing some concessions to the landholders in the Malnad for tapping banyan trees is already under the consideration of Govt.

This proposal to give similar concession with regard to date trees

A draft is subd forwarding this representation ~~along with~~ for being considered along with the other representation

15/73
17/7/14
20

10/20

1915

SUBJECT No. 177

Tapping of bagam trees by
hiduvalidars.

Messrs. C. Srinivas Rao, and C.
Vasudeva Rao, Chikmagalur
taluk.

Summary of discussion.—Some bagam trees may be
allowed to be tapped for *bonafide* home consumption.

Messrs. Hallegowda, H. V. Rangaswami and some
other members opposed this suggestion on the ground
that drinking would thereby increase and the present
system had checked drinking to some extent and was found
to be beneficial.

Reply of Government—Will be considered.

DIARY NO. 2085

1915-16

SECTION

248-12

138-10

SERIAL NO. 7

MAJ

1915.

SUBJECT NO. 179.

Tapping of bagani trees:

Messrs. Krishnappa and Channabasappa Gowda, Sorab taluk.

Summary of discussion.—Bagani trees do not yield toddy permanently like date trees. Such bagani trees as yield toddy may be numbered. After duly considering the total income from tree tax and other items of expenditure for each shop and also safe-guarding interests of Government the trees may be leased out for not less than five years at a time and the numbering of such trees as are uncertain of yielding toddy may be abolished.

Reply of Government.—Will be enquired into by the Excise Commissioner.

2087

10/15/16
SECTION
135 of 16

Mas
subject No. 177 2179.

248-12
(left below)

The general question relating to bagani trees has been referred to the Revenue Committee and is now in consideration since 1912. Subsequent representations have also been forwarded to that Officer for consideration along with the general question.

A draft is accordingly sub^d for m^{rs}.

h-56
8/4/16

Done by
8.4.16

G.R.S. 28]

Diary No. of letter replied to

GENERAL AND REVENUE
SECRETARIAT.

(SR)

the

191

Paper under disposal no(2)

Date of issue

Signed by

W. Greenman

2. Letter no. 115 of 30/6/1916 from the Secretary, Central Committee, Malwad Improvement Scheme, Shimoga Dist., submitting the resolution of the Committee in favour of allowing malwad ryots to draw bagam trees free for home consumption from trees standing on their holdings.

Passengers in the matter of landholders in the malwad tapping bagam trees for consumption

File No. 24812

Serial No. 8

Proceedings of the Government of His Highness
the Maharaja of Mysore.

READ—

1. Correspondence ending with letter no. AC 267-16-2 of the 30/8/1916 from the Excm. Council in Mysore regarding the grant of certain concessions to malwad land holders for tapping bagam trees in their holdings for bona fide domestic purposes.

ORDER THEREON. No.

2. Letter no. 115 of 30/6/1916 from the Secretary, Central Committee, Malwad Improvement Scheme, Shimoga Dist., submitting the resolution of the Committee in favour of allowing malwad ryots to draw bagam trees free for home consumption from trees standing on their holdings.

2. Letter no. 115 of 30/6/1916 from the Secretary, Central Committee, Malwad Improvement Scheme, Shimoga Dist., submitting the resolution of the Committee in favour of allowing malwad ryots to draw bagam trees free for home consumption from trees standing on their holdings.

no 7473-83 of 11 June/17

over

SUBJECT.

At present coffee planters and
holders in malnad areas are
enjoying the following privileges

(1) The coffee planter may under
the terms of the coffee settlement draw
toddy, free of tax from 'eagan' trees
on his land for domestic purposes
such as the making of bread etc.

(2) The Kanholder may draw
toddy, free of tax, from the toddy
yielding trees in his Kan only for
the use of the members of his
family, but not for sale or
for the use of his servants,
labourers or other employees

(3) The Coffee planter is allowed
to open estate shops for the vend
of toddy to his coolies and dependants.
for a fixed amount of not less
than Rs 12/- per annum But
Other Bax landholders in the malnad
are not enjoying ^{a similar} ~~any~~ privileges
~~in the matter~~

2. The question of granting

GENERAL AND REVENUE
SECRETARIAT.

(Continuation sheet draft form.)

some concessions in the matter to
maluad landholders also has been
pressed on Govt in the Dasara Repres-
entative Assembly on several occasions
and has been engaging the attention
of Govt for some time past.

3. The Excise Commr reports that
the main considerations to be kept
in view in arriving at a decision
in the matter are:-

(1) the removal of invidious and
unfair distinctions between ordinary
landholders and planters;

(2) the discouragement of any
sudden or serious increase in the
consumption of intoxicants; and

(3) the safeguarding, consistently
with the above two objects of the
interests of Govt revenue.

4. He accordingly
proposes that the following con-
cessions may be sanctioned,
tentatively for a period of

years:-

1. The maximum number of trees to be allowed to be tapped free for bona fide domestic consumption such as breadmaking etc, should

be as follows:-

Coffee planters	Three (annually)
Kanholders	Two (do)
Hiduralibars	One (do).

2) Coffee planters to be allowed to open estate shops subject to a minimum shop rent of Rs 3/- per month; and

3) Kanholders and hiduralibars to be ~~also~~ also allowed to open shops in their holdings on the same terms, provided they come to the satisfaction of the Dy. Commr that they have legitimate demand for shops for the use of their and servants.

5. Govt accept the views in regard to the first two concessions the Dy. Commr (and are pleased to sanction his

G. R. S. 27]

GENERAL AND REVENUE
SECRETARIAT.

(Continuation sheet draft form.)

Set of the
instructed
and amended

Mr.

Para 6 may be
deleted

25.5.17.

✓

subd
may this be printed
yes
✓

6/11

Mr
14/10/16.

proposals contained in the
preceding paragraph for three
years with effect from 1st July 1918
and are now for sale in the time concerned
at £6. The Excise Commr will
arrange to notify these concessions
in the Gazette, to fix the location
of Excise shops sufficiently early
after getting applications from
the persons requiring such shops,
so that the annual schedules of
to the Sale notification of 18.19
18.19
may be suitably revised and
published in time.

7. The Excise Commr will
include a paragraph in the
Administration Report of each
year regarding the operation
of the rules now sanctioned
and submit by proper time
by Decr 1919 proposals
for their continuance or revision

Id- 20/10-1916
Rev Secy to Govt.

To the Excise Commr in Mysore.
The Dy Commr of Shimoga, Kadi & Hassan & for
the communication to the P.A. members concerned.
The Dy Commr of the Dy.
The Commr of the Govt.
The Secretary, Central Committee - Malabar
& the Secretary, Central Committee - Malabar

**Government of His Highness the Maharaja
of Mysore.**

GENERAL AND REVENUE DEPARTMENTS.



**G. O. No. Fl. 7473-83—S. R. 248-12-7,
dated 11th June 1917**

**Grant of certain concessions to the Malnad Landholders for tapping
Bagani trees.**

Sanctions the — in their holdings for *bona fide* domestic purpose.

**Grant of certain concessions to the
Malnad Landholders for tapping
Bagani trees.**

No. FL. 7473-83—S. R. 248-12-7, DATED 11TH JUNE 1917.

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF HIS HIGHNESS
THE MAHARAJA OF MYSORE.**

GENERAL AND REVENUE DEPARTMENTS.

READ—

Correspondence ending with letter No. A. C. 267-16-2, dated the 30th August 1916, from the Excise Commissioner in Mysore, regarding the grant of certain concessions to malnad landholders for tapping bagani trees in their holdings for *bona fide* domestic purposes.

2. Letter No. 115, dated 30th June 1916, from the Secretary, Central Committee, Malnad Improvement Scheme, Shimoga District, submitting the resolution of the Committee in favour of allowing malnad raiyats to draw bagani toddy free for home consumption from trees standing on their holdings.

Order No. FL. 7473-83—S. R. 248-12-7, dated 11th June 1917.

1. At present coffee planters and kanholders in malnad areas are enjoying the following privileges:—

(1) The coffee planter may under the terms of the coffee settlement draw toddy free of tax from bagani trees on his land for domestic purposes such as the making of bread, etc.

(2) The kanholder may draw toddy, free of tax, from the toddy-yielding trees in his kan only for the use of the members of his family, but not for sale or for the use of his servants, labourers or other employees.

(3) The coffee planter is allowed to open estate shops for the vend of toddy to his coolies and dependents for a fixed amount of not less than Rs. 12 per annum. But other landholders in the malnad are not enjoying a similar privilege.

2. The question of granting some concessions in the matter to malnad landholders also has been pressed on Government in the Dasara Representative Assembly on several occasions and has been engaging the attention of Government for some time past.

3. The Excise Commissioner reports that the main considerations to be kept in view in arriving at a decision in the matter are:—

(1) the removal of invidious and unfair distinctions between ordinary landholders and planters;

(2) the discountenancing of any sudden or serious increase in the consumption of intoxicants; and

(3) the safeguarding, consistently with the above two objects, of the interests of Government revenue.

4. He accordingly proposes that the following concessions may be sanctioned, tentatively for a period of three years:—

(1) The maximum number of trees to be allowed to be tapped *free* for *bona fide* domestic consumption, such as bread-making, etc., should be as below:—

Coffee planters		 Three (Annually)
Kanholders		 Two do
Hiduvalidars		 One do

(2) Coffee planters to be allowed to open estate shop subject to a minimum shop rent of Rs. 3 per month; and

No. FL. 7473-83—S. R. 248-12-7, DATED 11TH JUNE 1917.

(3) Kanholders and hiduvalidars to be also allowed to open shops in their holdings on the same terms, provided they show to the satisfaction of the Deputy Commissioner that they have a legitimate demand for such shops for the use of coolies and dependents.

5. Government accept the views of the Excise Commissioner in regard to the first two concessions and are pleased to sanction his proposals contained in the preceding paragraph for three years with effect from 1st July 1918. Government are not in favour of granting the third concession so far as the hiduvalidars are concerned.

6. The Excise Commissioner will arrange to notify these concessions in the Gazette, to fix the location of Excise shops sufficiently early, after getting applications from the persons requiring such shops, so that the annual schedules to the sale notification of 1918-19 may be suitably revised and published in time.

7. The Excise Commissioner will include a paragraph in the Administration Report of each year regarding the operation of the rules now sanctioned and submit in proper time proposals for their continuance or revision.

B. RAMASWAMAIYA,
Offg. Secy. to Govt., Rev. Dept.

To—The Excise Commissioner in Mysore.

The Deputy Commissioners of Shimoga, Kadur and Hassan Districts for communication to the Representative Assembly Members concerned.

The Deputy Commissioners of other Districts.

The Comptroller, Mysore Government.

The Secretary, Central Committee, Malnad Improvement Scheme.

Exd.—C. R.